Novartis Reference: PAT051386-US-CIP01

Mofo Reference: 223002109720

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of: Susan BARNETT et al.

Application No.: 09/610,313 Confirmation No.: 4221

Filed: July 5, 2000 Art Unit: 1635

For: POLYNUCLEOTIDES ENCODING

ANTIGENIC HIV TYPE C POLYPEPTIDES, POLYPEPTIDES AND USES THEREOF

Examiner: J. E. Angell

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.111

MAIL STOP: AMENDMENT Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This is in response to the Non-Final Office Action dated March 29, 2010 (Paper No. 20100304), for which a response is due on June 29, 2010. Accordingly, this response is timely filed. Reconsideration and allowance of the pending claims, as amended, in light of the remarks presented herein are respectfully requested.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 8 of this paper.